

**ARIZONA SUPREME COURT  
COMMISSION ON MINORITIES IN THE JUDICIARY (COM)  
MINUTES**

Thursday, April 19, 2012  
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
Arizona State Courts Building – Room 230  
Phoenix, Arizona

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Honorable Roxanne Song Ong, Chair  
Mike Baumstark  
Marian Zapata-Rossa

**PRESENT TELEPHONICALLY:**

Diandra Benally  
Paul Bennett  
Honorable Peter Eckerstrom  
Patricia Ferguson-Bohnee  
Joi Hollis  
Honorable Mitchell Kalauli  
Honorable Dan Slayton  
Honorable Alma Vildosola  
Honorable Penny Willrich (Ret)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Honorable Maria Avilez  
Niccole King  
Bob Allen Kirk  
Honorable Leslie Miller  
Kendall Rhyne  
Arthur Wilkerson

**STAFF:**

Susan Pickard, Court Services Division, AOC  
Annette Mariani, Court Services Division, AOC

**GUEST(S):**

Leticia V. D'Amore, MSW, CASA of Arizona  
Program Manager  
Chris Manes, Information Technology Division  
John Vivian, Arizona Department of Juvenile  
Corrections  
Charles Flanagan, Director, Arizona  
Department of Juvenile Corrections  
Lou Goodman, Arizona Department of  
Juvenile Corrections  
Matthew Scheller, Arizona Department of  
Juvenile Corrections

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**1. Chris Nakamura Judicial Appointment – Judge Peter Eckerstrom**

This agenda item, which was originally slotted for later presentation, opened the meeting.

The Chris Nakamura Judicial Appointment Workshop presented in Tucson on March 2, 2012 was very well attended. The highlight of the presentation was a panel-facilitated mock interview. Judge Eckerstrom thanked Justice Pelander and John Hinderaker for their efforts in making this event a success.

The next Workshop is expected to be presented in conjunction with the Minority Bar Convention in April, 2013.

**2. Welcome, Introductions:**

Commission members present and on the telephone introduced themselves.

Judge Song Ong reviewed the charges and projects of the Commission's four workgroups and asked members to select one of interest to them.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the January 19, 2012, meeting as written. The motion was seconded and approved. COM-012-02

## **BUSINESS ITEMS/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS**

### **4. Dependent Children Services Division, Leticia V. D'Amore, MSW – CASA of Arizona Program Manager**

Ms. D'Amore gave a statistical reporting of the demographics of the children involved in Dependant Care. She highlighted the disproportionate number of children of color in the system. Ms. D'Amore also provided an overview of the CASA Program. The program's current goals include:

- increasing the number and diversity of CASA volunteers;
- continuing active recruitment through various community efforts;
- maintaining and enhancing the CASA website;
- conducting regular meetings of the Committee on Diversity and Inclusiveness (CODI) - charged with developing a statewide guiding document; and
- developing training related to the impact of poverty, race and ethnicity on a child's identity.

Judge Song Ong thanked Ms. D'Amore for her presentation.

### **5. WebEx – Meeting Audio Options, Chris Manes, Information Technology Division, AOC**

Mr. Manes gave a brief presentation on WebEx audio options. After discussion it was agreed that the Commission would continue to use WebEx video conferencing in combination with AOC conference call lines. Should a member require a different option, accommodations can be discussed as the need arises.

### **6. Meeting Dates – Susan Pickard, Staff, Administrative Office of the Courts**

Due to meeting conflicts occurring on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday for a number of members, the Commission agreed that meetings will now be scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays. The next two meetings of the Commission will be held on July 12, 2012, and October 11, 2012. Additionally, the meeting time has been changed to better accommodate member schedules. Commission meetings will now be scheduled for the two hours between 2:00 – 4:00 pm.

### **7. Workgroup Updates:**

#### **Cultural Competency – Honorable Penny L. Willrich (Ret.)**

This Workgroup has not met since the Commission's January meeting. Staff from the AOC, Education Services Division will be attending the Commission's July meeting to discuss possible collaborative education projects stemming from last year's broadcast. Since the outcome of that discussion will likely overlap with the efforts of this Workgroup, it was decided that this group would not meet until after that meeting.

Over-representation – Honorable Roxanne Song Ong

A new chair is needed. The importance of continuing the collaboration with the Governor's DMC Committee established by Jesus Diaz was noted.

Collaboration and Outreach – Honorable Roxanne Song Ong

A new chair is needed for this workgroup.

Diversity – Honorable Peter Eckerstrom

A brief overview of the changes made to the Judicial Diversity website was provided to members.

**Motion:** To approve the current look and format of the website with direction to find an appropriate home within the index of the AOC website and to move forward with the workgroup developing suggestions for the dissemination of the website. The motion was seconded and approved. COM-012-03

**8. Good of the Order/Call to the Public:** No members of the public were present

**Motion:** For the Commission to recognize Judge Song Ong on her selection of one of the most intriguing women of the year in Arizona. The motion was seconded and approved. COM-012-04

**Adjourned at 3:10 p.m.**